

REMARKS

This Amendment is responsive to the official action dated January 5, 2009. Claims 1, 4-9, and 12-41 were pending in the application. In the official action, claims 1, 4-9, and 12-22 were allowed, and claims 23-41 were rejected. In this Amendment, claims 23-41 have been canceled.

Since the Amendment merely cancels rejected claims, it should be entered in due course.

Applicant submits that the present application is now in condition for allowance and requests withdrawal of the rejections in light of the following remarks.

§112 Rejections

Claims 36-41 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement.

Claims 36-41 have been canceled, thereby rendering their rejections moot.

§103 Rejections

Claims 23-41 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Berhan (US Patent No. 6,487,145).

Claims 23-41 have been canceled, thereby rendering their rejections moot.

Applicant respectfully submits that all of the claims now pending in the application are in condition for allowance, which action is earnestly solicited. If any issues remain, or if the Examiner has any further suggestions, he/she is invited to telephone the undersigned at (908) 654-5000.

The Examiner is hereby authorized to charge any insufficient fees or credit any overpayment associated with the above-identified application to Deposit Account No. 12-1095.


Application No.: 10/509,838

Docket No.: SONYJP 3.3-993

The Examiner's consideration of this matter is gratefully acknowledged.

Dated: March 9, 2009

Respectfully submitted,

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